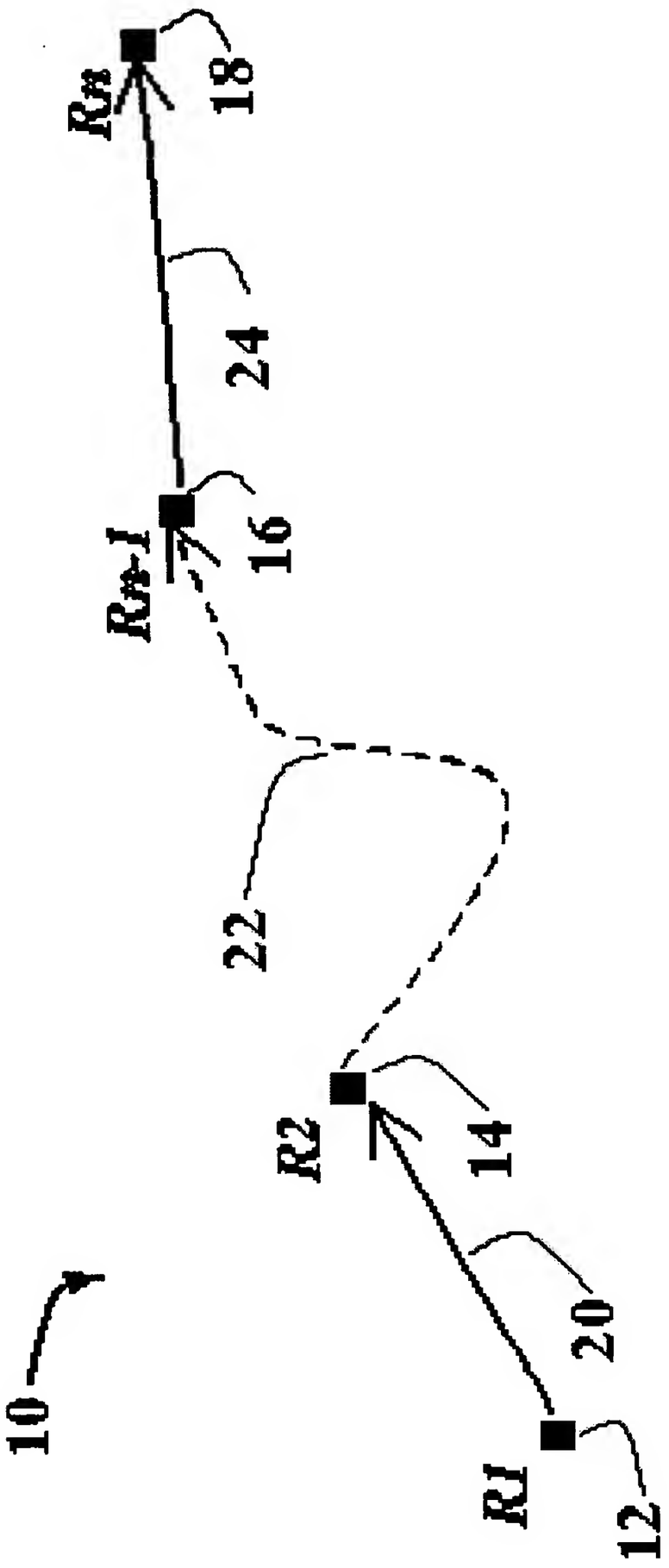
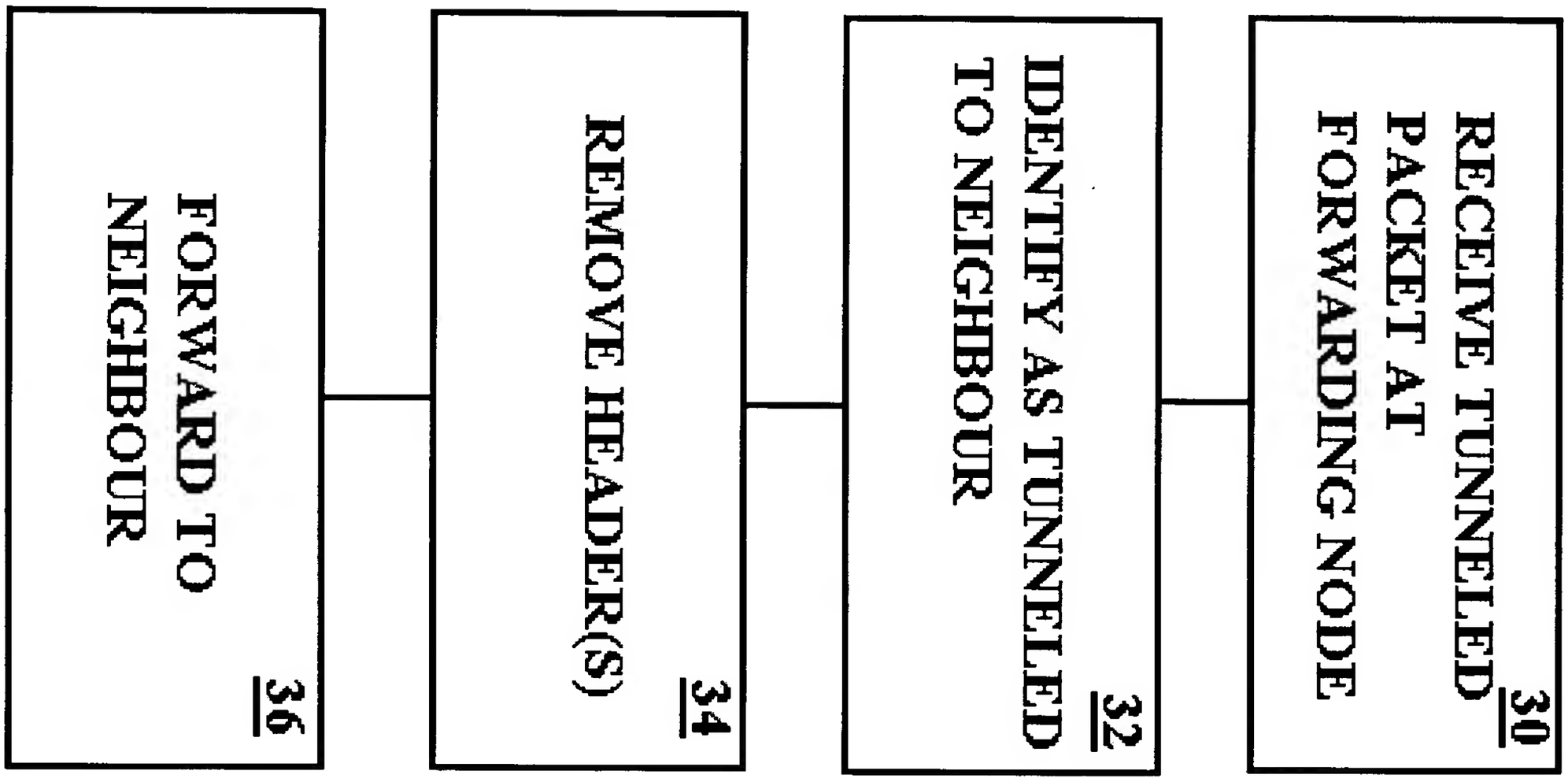


FIG. 1

FIG. 2


RECEIVE TUNNELED PACKET AT FORWARDING NODE 30
IDENTIFY AS TUNNELED TO NEIGHBOUR 32
REMOVE HEADER(S) 34
FORWARD TO NEIGHBOUR 36

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORWARDING A TUNNELED PACKET IN A DATA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
Inventor(s): Ian Michel Charles Shand, et al.
Docket No. 50325-0807 Express Mail Label #: EV323354614US
3 of 12 Date of Deposit: July 15, 2003

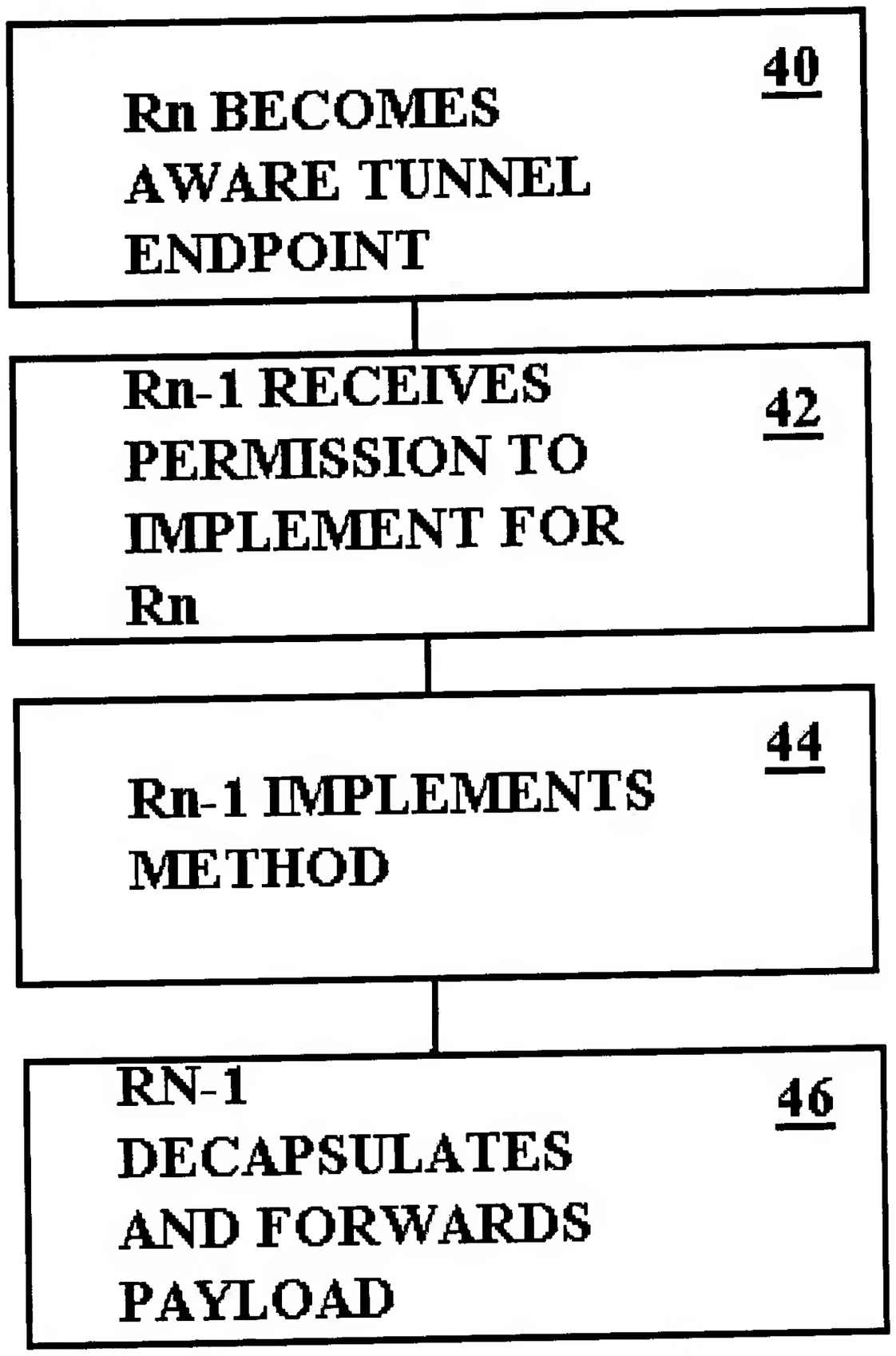


FIG. 3

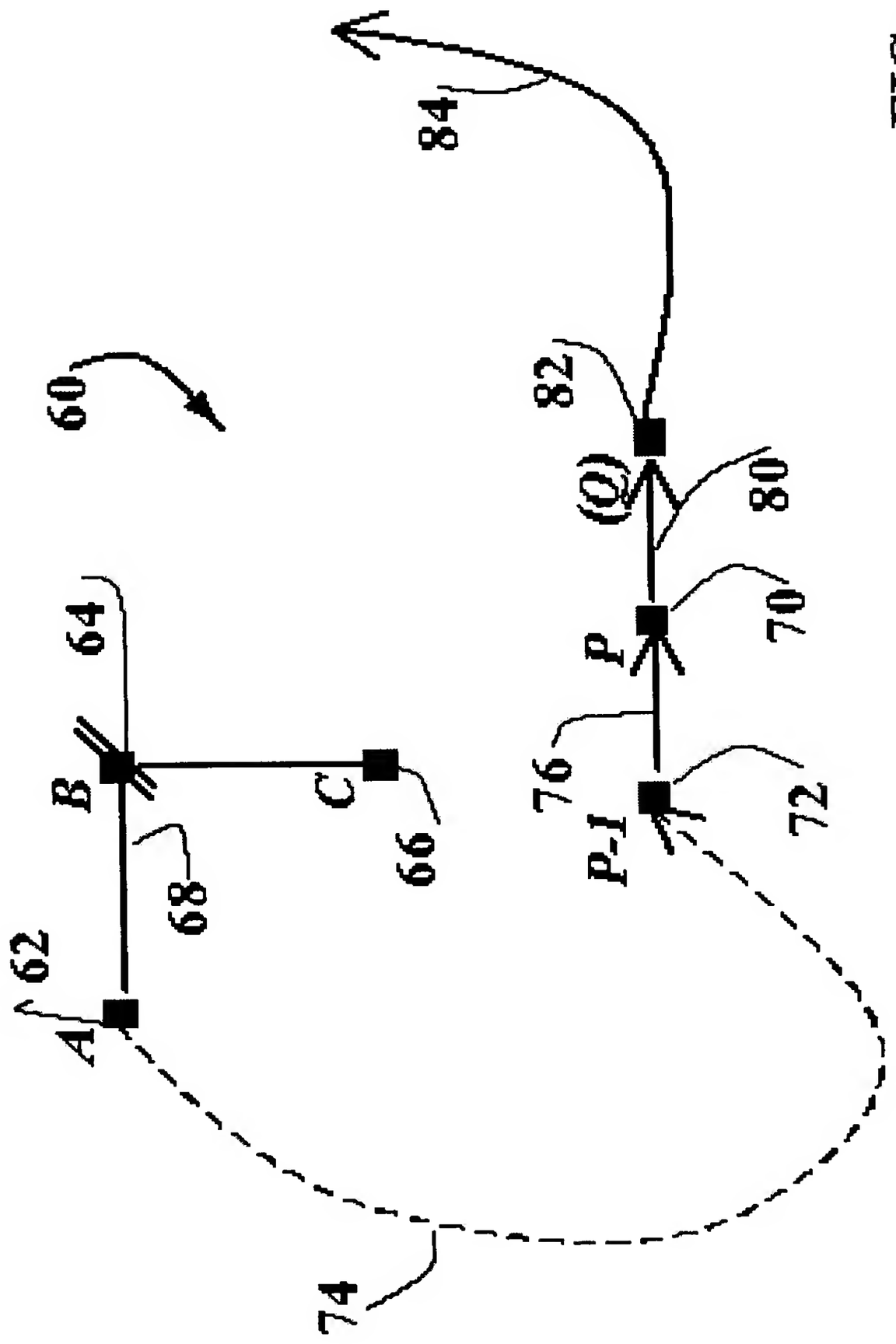


FIG. 4

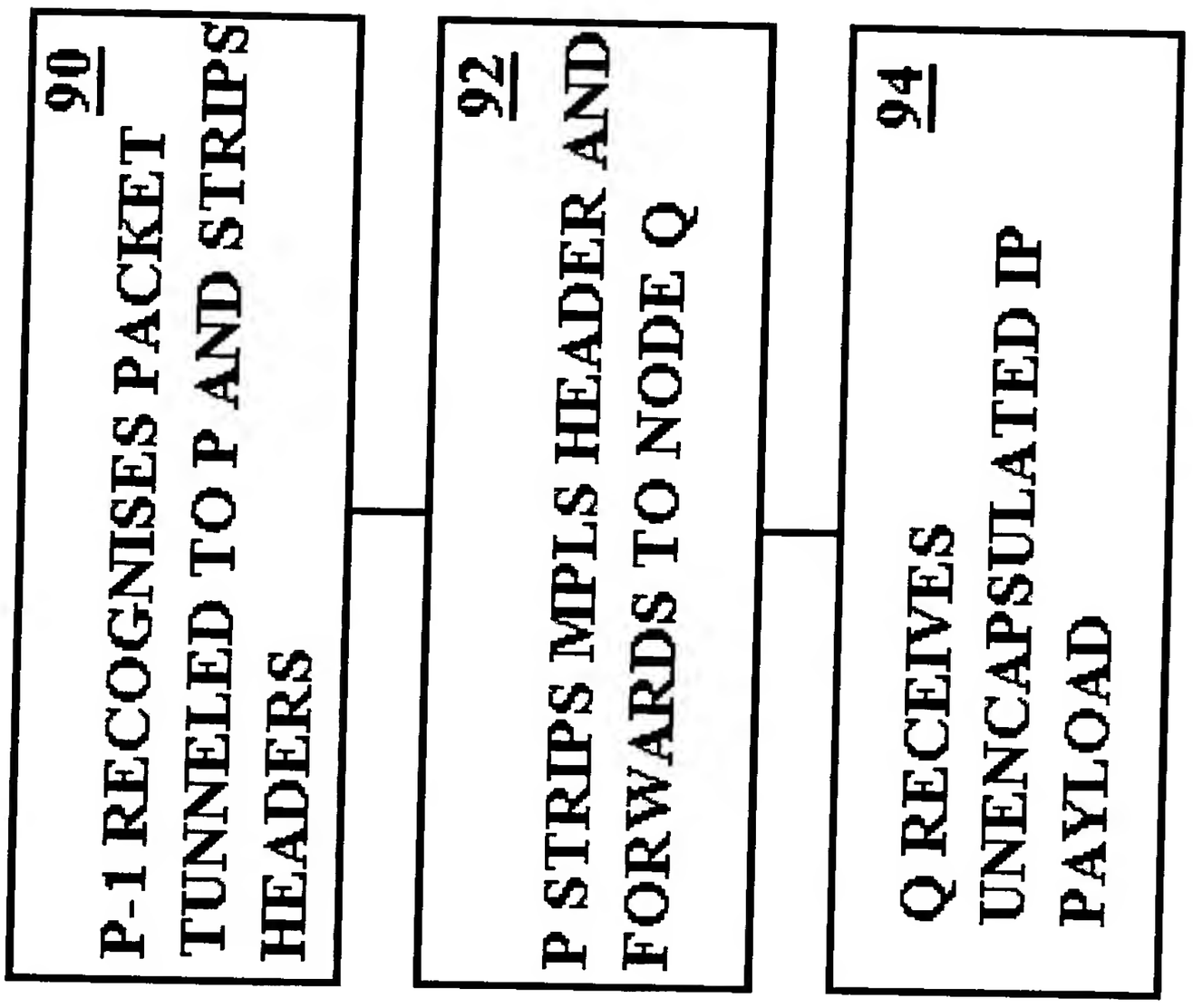

90
P-1 RECOGNISES PACKET
TUNNELED TO P AND STRIPS
HEADERS
92
P STRIPS MPLS HEADER AND
FORWARDS TO NODE Q
94
Q RECEIVES
UNENCAPSULATED IP
PAYLOAD

FIG 5

Express Mail Label #: EV323354614US
Date of Deposit: July 15, 2003

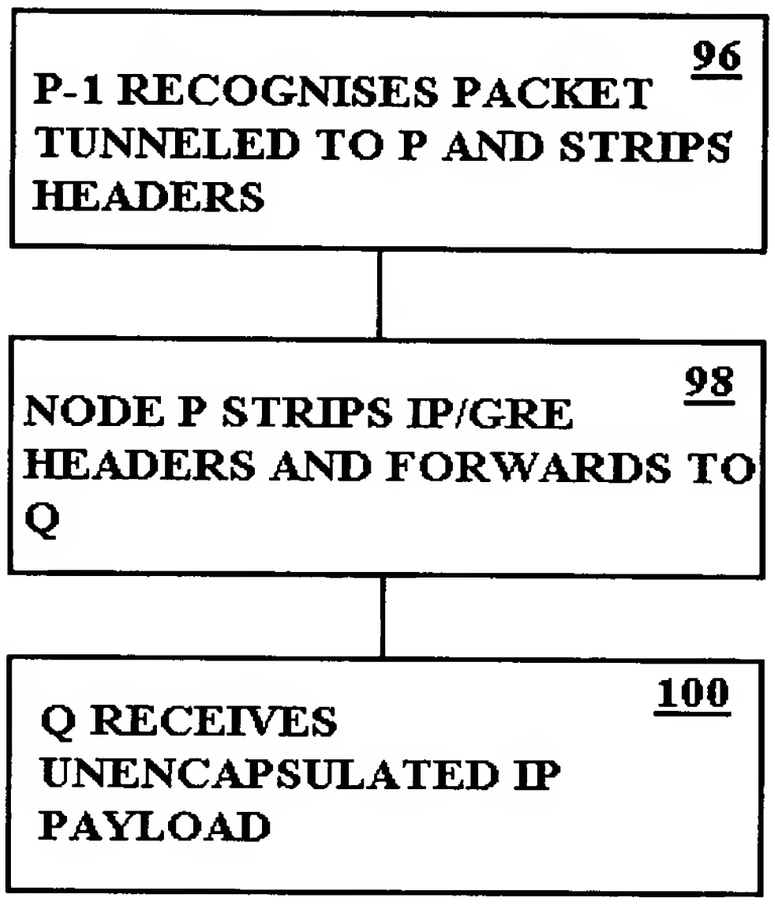


FIG. 6

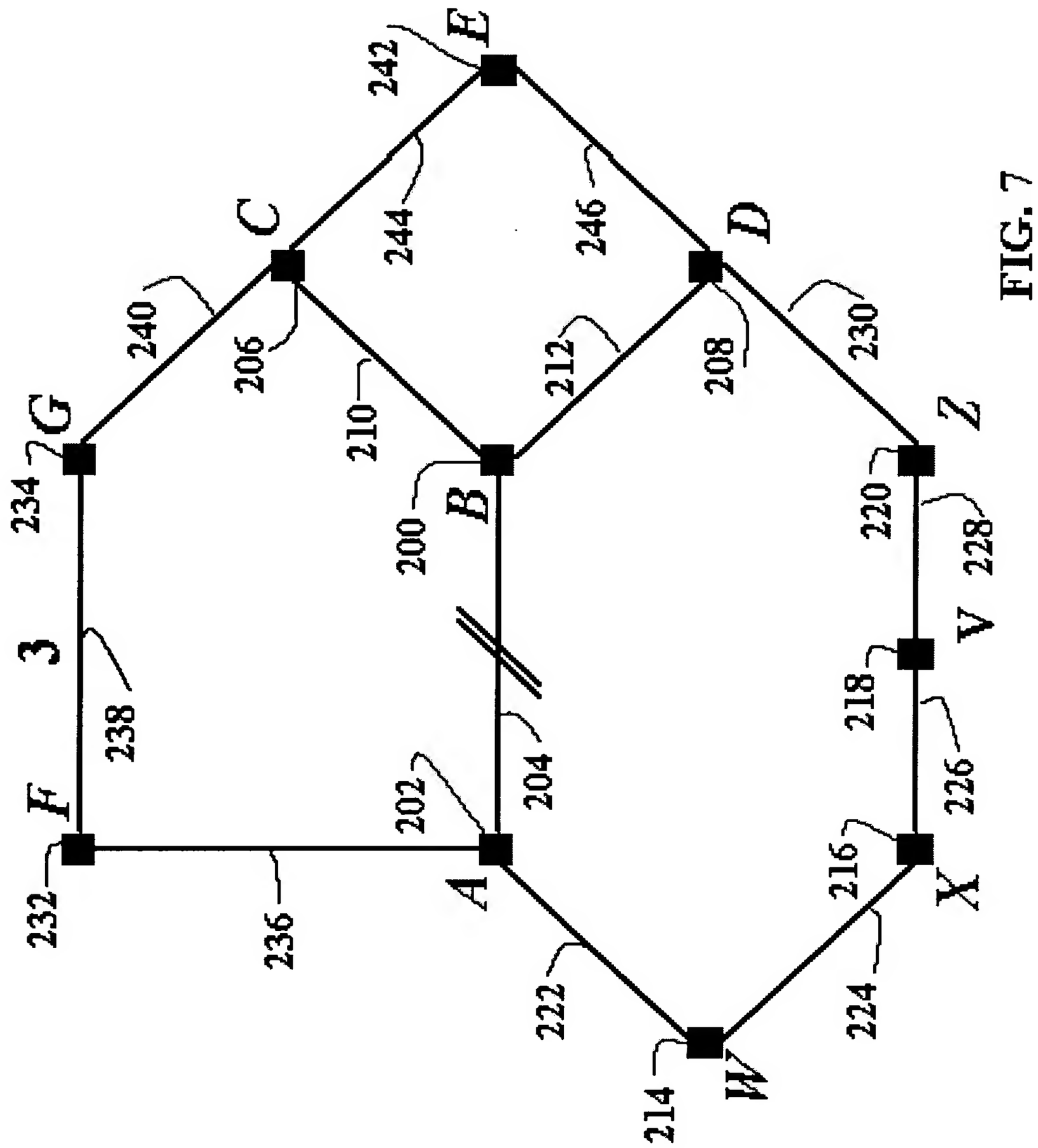

E
242
C
244
246
D
240
206
210
212
208
230
G
234
200
B
Z
220
3
V
228
238
218
F
204
202
226
232
236
A
216
X
222
224
214
W

FIG. 7

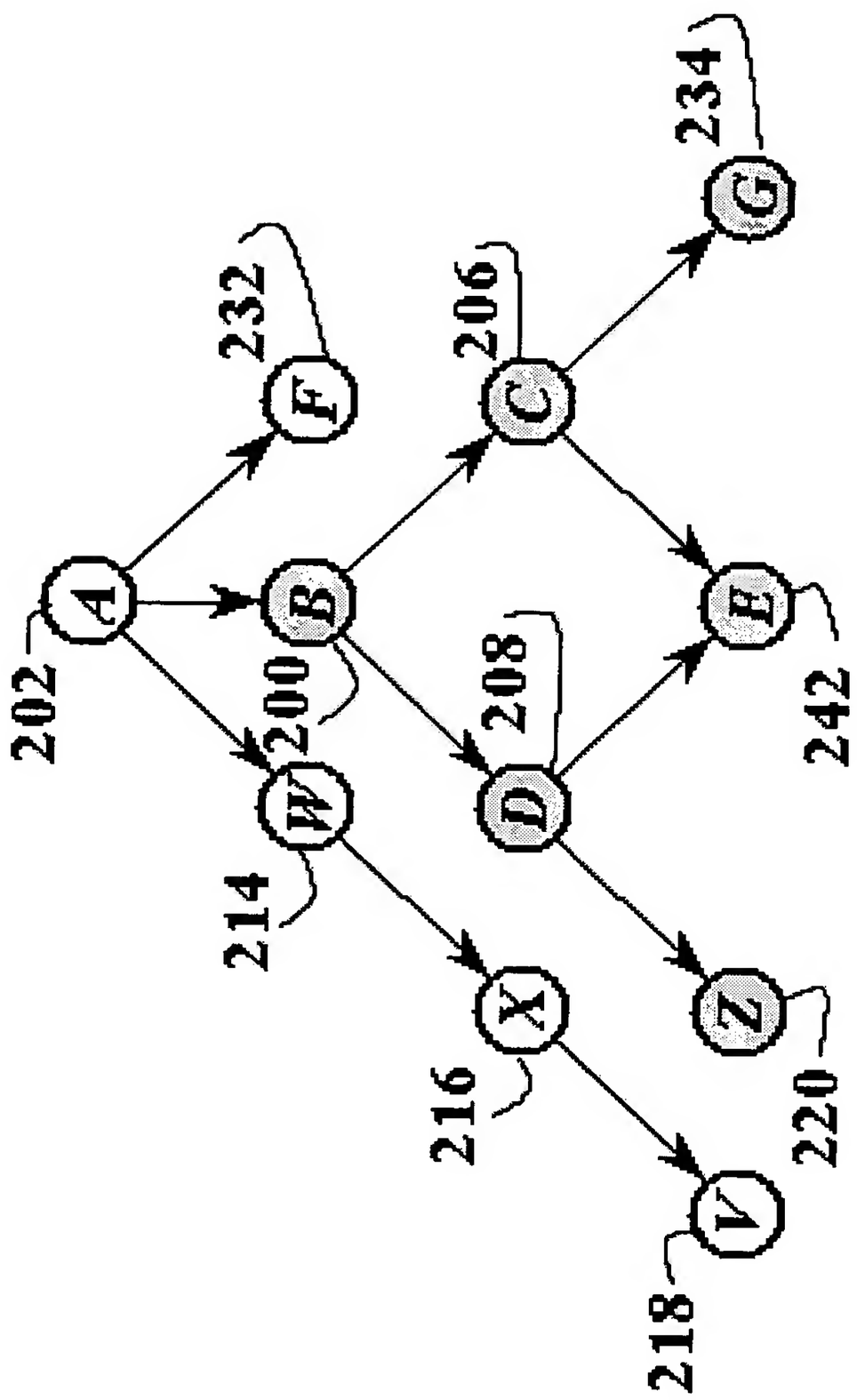


FIG. 8

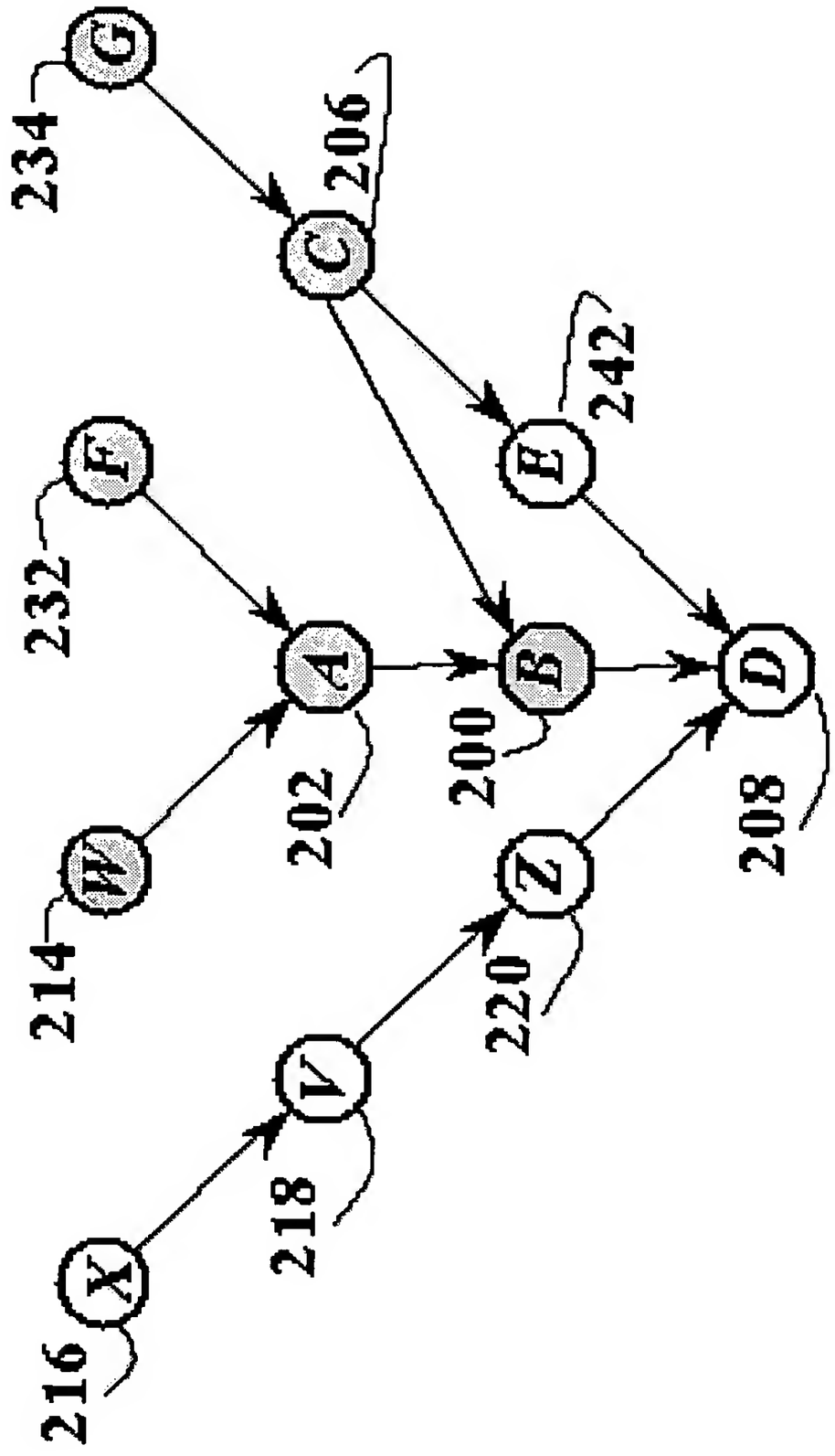


FIG. 9

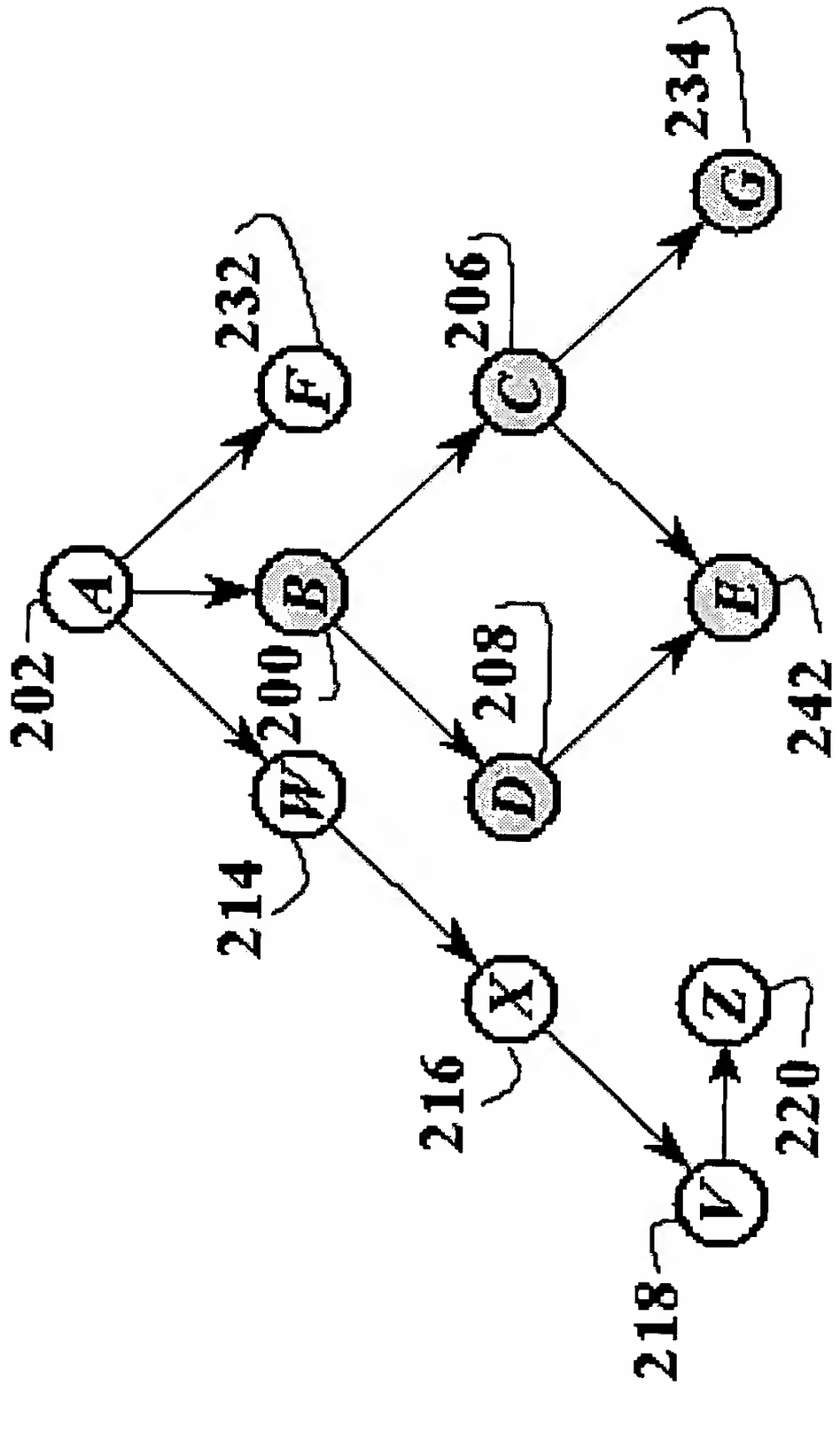
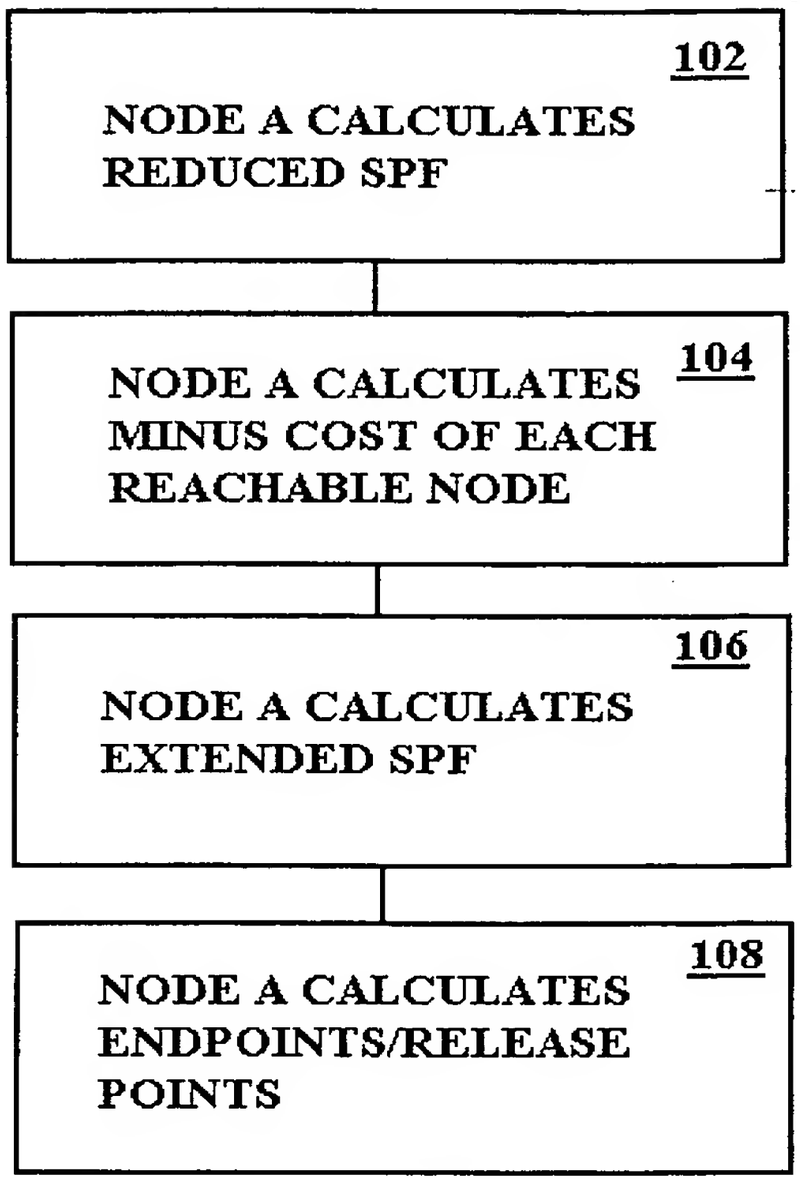


FIG. 10

FIG. 11


102
NODE A CALCULATES REDUCED SPF
104
NODE A CALCULATES MINUS COST OF EACH REACHABLE NODE
106
NODE A CALCULATES EXTENDED SPF
108
NODE A CALCULATES ENDPOINTS/RELEASE POINTS

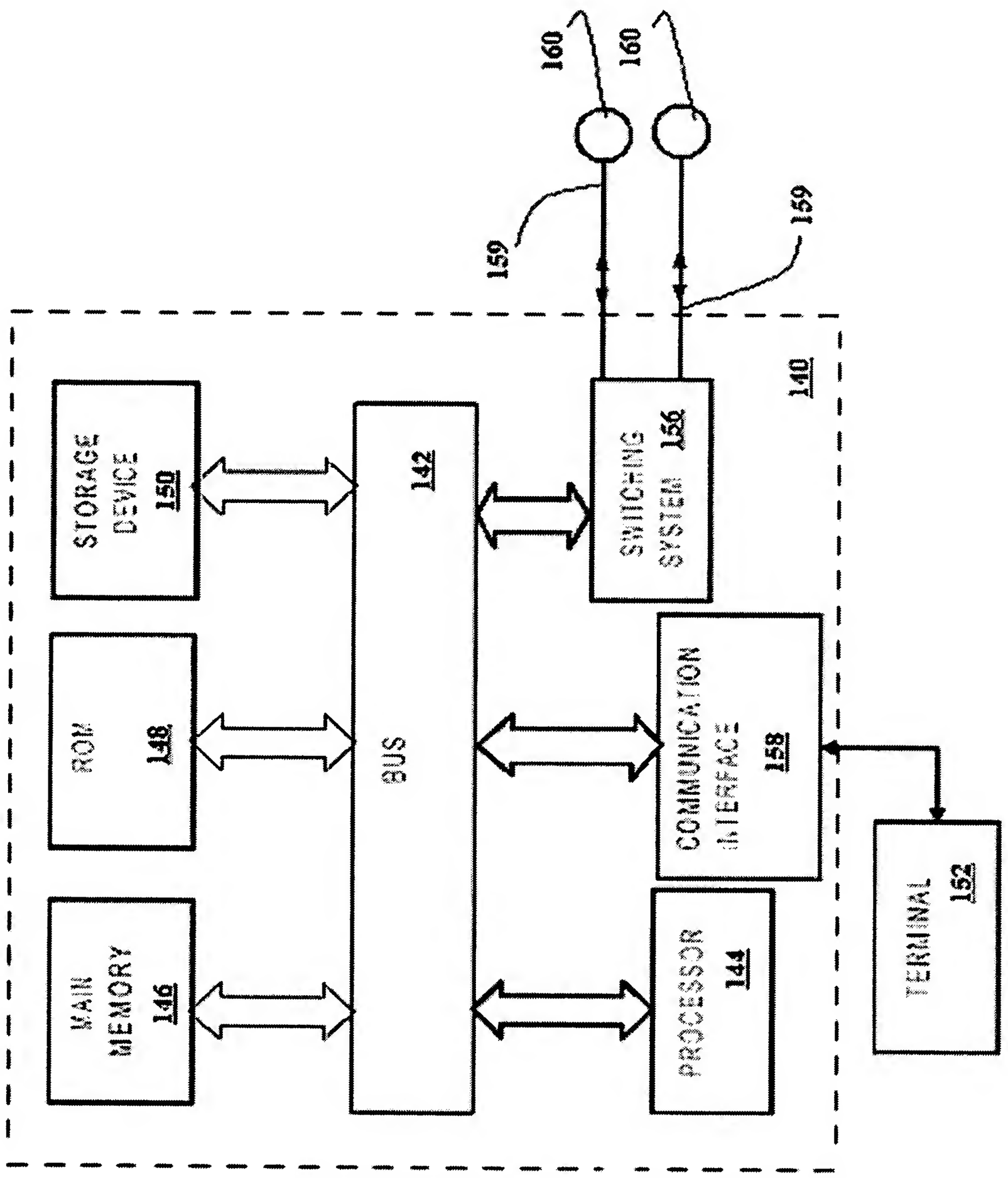

160
160
159
159
140
STORAGE DEVICE 150
142
SWITCHING SYSTEM 156
ROM 148
BUS
COMMUNICATION INTERFACE 158
MAIN MEMORY 146
PROCESSOR 144
TERMINAL 152

FIG. 12